

## Khoe-San

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### Khoe-San Latest News

Recently, a **new genetic study published in the Cell Press journal** reveals that **European colonisation strongly altered the genetic ancestry** of the indigenous **Khoe-San peoples** of southern Africa.

### About Khoe-San

- **Khoe-San** is a **collective term** for the indigenous peoples of southern Africa, encompassing:
  - **San (Bushmen):** Hunter-gatherers.
  - **Khoekhoe (Khoi):** Cattle, goat, and sheep pastoralists.
- They represent one of the **earliest divergent human lineages**, with exceptionally high **genetic diversity**.
- The research highlights **sex-biased migration**, where **European male settlers displaced Khoe-San men**, while Khoe-San women contributed significantly to present-day genetic lineages.
- The study also shows the impact of the **slave trade**, where enslaved women from **South Asia, Southeast Asia, Eastern Africa, and Madagascar** were brought to the Cape by the **Dutch East India Company (VOC)**.

## Historical Interactions

- **~2,000 years ago:** Eastern African pastoralists and **Bantu-speaking agro-pastoralists** arrived, influencing and displacing many Khoe-San groups.
- **Last 1,500 years:** Bantu-speaking groups largely replaced or assimilated Khoe-San populations in eastern South Africa.
- **1652 onwards:** Dutch East India Company (VOC) established Cape Town; European settlers arrived in waves over 250 years.
- **Slave Trade (1652-1808):** VOC enslaved ~63,000 people from Africa and Asia, mostly women, reshaping genetic ancestry.
- Indigenous Khoe-San were also recruited as labourers.

**Source: DTE**

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